

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for operating a graphics program in a computer, comprising:
performing a Sheet Set Manager function in the graphics program, wherein the Sheet
5 Set Manager manages a one or more Sheet Sets, each of the Sheet Sets comprises a
collection of zero or more Sheets and Subsets of the Sheets, each of the Sheets comprises a
drawing, layout or view, and the Sheet Set Manager manages one or more different views for
the Sheets.

- 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein boundaries for the views are re-defined after
creation.

- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein each of the views is associated with a
viewport.

- 20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein each of the views is represented by a
thumbnail preview image displayed by the Sheet Set Manager.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the Sheet Set Manager automatically creates
one or more different views for the Sheets in response to a user command.

- 25 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the user command comprises a drag-and-
drop operation.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the Sheet Set Manager creates a reference to
a file containing the automatically created view.

- 30 8. The method of claim 5, wherein the Sheet Set Manager creates a viewport
displaying a geometric region defined in the automatically created view.

9. The method of claim 5, wherein the automatically created view is placed in a
hierarchical representation displayed on the computer.

10. The method of claim 5, wherein the Sheet Set Manager places a label block associated with the automatically created view into the Sheet, with fields to display appropriate label information for the automatically created view, which updates 5 automatically if their values change.

11. The method of claim 5, wherein the Sheet Set Manager allows the user to adjust a scale of the automatically created view.

10 12. An apparatus for operating a graphics program in a computer, comprising: a Sheet Set Manager function in the graphics program, wherein the Sheet Set Manager manages a one or more Sheet Sets, each of the Sheet Sets comprises a collection of zero or more Sheets and Subsets of the Sheets, each of the Sheets comprises a drawing, layout or view, and the Sheet Set Manager manages one or more different views for the 15 Sheets.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein boundaries for the views are re-defined after creation.

20 14. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein each of the views is associated with a viewport.

15. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein each of the views is represented by a thumbnail preview image displayed by the Sheet Set Manager.

25 16. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the Sheet Set Manager automatically creates one or more different views for the Sheets in response to a user command.

30 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the user command comprises a drag-and-drop operation.

18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the Sheet Set Manager creates a reference to a file containing the automatically created view.

19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the Sheet Set Manager creates a viewport 5 displaying a geometric region defined in the automatically created view.

20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the automatically created view is placed in a hierarchical representation displayed on the computer.

10 21. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the Sheet Set Manager places a label block associated with the automatically created view into the Sheet, with fields to display appropriate label information for the automatically created view, which updates automatically if their values change.

15 22. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the Sheet Set Manager allows the user to adjust a scale of the automatically created view.

23. An article of manufacture embodying logic for operating a graphics program in a computer, the logic comprising:

20 performing a Sheet Set Manager function in the graphics program, wherein the Sheet Set Manager manages a one or more Sheet Sets, each of the Sheet Sets comprises a collection of zero or more Sheets and Subsets of the Sheets, each of the Sheets comprises a drawing, layout or view, and the Sheet Set Manager manages one or more different views for the Sheets.

25

24. The article of claim 23, wherein boundaries for the views are re-defined after creation.

25. The article of claim 23, wherein each of the views is associated with a 30 viewport.

26. The article of claim 23, wherein each of the views is represented by a thumbnail preview image displayed by the Sheet Set Manager.

27. The article of claim 23, wherein the Sheet Set Manager automatically creates 5 one or more different views for the Sheets in response to a user command.

28. The article of claim 27, wherein the user command comprises a drag-and-drop operation.

10 29. The article of claim 27, wherein the Sheet Set Manager creates a reference to a file containing the automatically created view.

30. The article of claim 27, wherein the Sheet Set Manager creates a viewport displaying a geometric region defined in the automatically created view.

15 31. The article of claim 27, wherein the automatically created view is placed in a hierarchical representation displayed on the computer.

20 32. The article of claim 27, wherein the Sheet Set Manager places a label block associated with the automatically created view into the Sheet, with fields to display appropriate label information for the automatically created view, which updates automatically if their values change.

25 33. The article of claim 27, wherein the Sheet Set Manager allows the user to adjust a scale of the automatically created view.